

essions, unless the people take the matter in hand themselves, demand legislation which will suppress quacks in all the professions and ve to collegiate degrees the worth which only legislation can give them.

One difficulty which apparently complicates the degree question can readily be disposed of. This is the desire of individual citizens to found colleges and universities. The statement is constantly made that State regulation would check, if it did not destroy, the tendency of private persons to provide for the needs of the higher education. It happens, however, that the wiser the private over the greater his

desire to place his foundation directly under the administration of the State, vide James Lick, of California, and that most wise and noble giver of good gifts to the Commonwealth, Ezra Cornell. But, assuming this not to be the case; assuming the founder's sole desire to be the perpetuation of his name and some pet dogma—even in this extreme case, State regulation which established a minimum requirement for every student's diploma examination would leave the private founder as free

to have an equal right as he is to-day, provided the dogmatic instruction did not interfere with the science and history, the literature and philosophy, the medicine and jurisprudence required by the State. Such regulation would, by establishing a minimum standard, insure a positive public benefit from every private foundation; whereas, under present legislation, such as that of Pennsylvania, which enables most unequally equipped institutions to bestow equal degrees, every new foundation adds to the danger both of

half-culture for its graduates and extended opposition to State regulation, i. e., extended harm to the best interests of the professions and the community.

AMERICA'S NEGLECT.

In no country in the world does applied science play so large a role in the national life as in the Union; in no country in the world does politics so absorb the attention of the people as in the Union. Yet, in no country in the civilized world is the vital connection

between science and government so stupidly ignored as in the United States of America. In England, every man who holds a ruling place must be a university man, and every man who holds a subordinate place must pass a civil service examination;—and the general internal administration of England is, in consequence, so infinitely better than our own that every American who lives a half year in England must, after honest comparison, blush for the stupid badness of his own local administration. In Germany, every civil ser-

vant who holds any considerable position must be a university man, and every civil servant must pass a civil service examination;—and the German civil service is the finest in the world. But there is another reason for this, in addition to the careful qualification of actual civil servants. "Verwaltungslehre"—the "Theory of the Function of Government"—is taught as a university study. The university man who makes his degree in the faculty of jurisprudence as *doctor juris rerum generalium* must

in preparation for which he must make himself familiar with a vast literature of the theory of administration. In Germany, the administrative branch of government has for years occupied the attention of learned professors; the duty of the State in every possible relation to the people, and the national life, to the public health, to education, to trade, to pauperism, to emigration, to religion, is the study of several university years for every aspirant for public office. Some day we shall follow Ger-

many's example in this respect. When we develop a literature of the theory of the function of administration and require our lawmakers and the men who enforce our law to study the subject before attempting to take active part in the work of administration we shall speedily have Boards of Health and Boards of Education (or better, Bureaux of Health and Bureaux of Education) which will regulate the value of degrees and prevent the existence of alleged or forged degrees.

most vital interest in the detection and punishment of fraudulent physicians, fraudulent lawyers, and fraudulent teachers, are working men and women. They who have most vital interest in the improvement of the civil service are working men and women. They who have the most vital interest in the extension of special training, for want of which in America quacks must continue to thrive and State governments fail to perform their functions, are working men and women.

The working women of America can do nothing in the matter for want of the ballot. The working men of America form an enormous majority of the voters of the Nation. When they clearly perceive the interest which they have in the State regulation of the higher education they will obtain it for their own sake and the sake of the Nation. F. K.

Something More About the Red River Dam.
 To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:
 I subscribed for THE TRIBUNE last summer

intending to drop it at the end of the year if I did not like it, but I am happy to say that I have already received ten times the value paid. I was connected with Banks' expedition up the Red River, my regiment, the 99th U. S. C. infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel U. B. Pearsall, and the 97th U. S. C. infantry, Colonel Robinson, as an engineer brigade, having charge of the pontoon train, and although we took no active part in fighting, still we were often exposed to the fire of the enemy while laying the pontoons.

bridges across rivers and bays for our army to cross on in the advance; and, again, in taking them up when retreating. I am very sure that the comrades who wrote up the account given in **THE THIRINE** must have been there also, as it is the only correct account I have ever read. Especially accurate is the part relating to the building of the dam which enabled the gunboats to pass down over the rapids at Alexandria. It is indeed true that Lieutenant-Colonel U. B. Pearshall was the man who engineered the building of the dam by means

of which the boats were finally extricated, wading into the rapid-running water almost up to his arm-pits, and leading the men were assigned to aid him—many of whom were taken off their feet and carried down stream by the rapidity of the current—and working and ingging himself as hard as any of them, until at last success crowned his efforts and the boats were rescued.

his advice had been needed earlier, is not for me to say, but as I was his quartermaster and closely associated with him, I had an opportunity to know his views, and he said to me more than once: "Hutch, if they will only let me I will have those boats over the falls in less than twenty-four hours." And he did, too, when he was given the chance. I am glad that someone has at last given him the credit due him. I should like very much to know of his whereabouts if alive. He was promoted to colonel and ordered to Kansas in 1865, since which

have not heard from him.
W. H. HUTCHINSON,
First Lieut. and R. Q. M., 99th U. S. Inf.
BRISTOL, CONN.
[Col. Pearsall, we believe, is now mayor of
Fort Scott, Kan.—Ed.]

Tar Balls and Chain Shot.
To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:
Please tell us whether or not there were any
tar balls thrown by the Union forces at the

[No orders were given for the use of fire balls at Chancellorsville, and none were fired so far as we have been able to ascertain from participants in that battle. Lieutenant Charles

A. Atwell, commanding Knapp's battery at Front Royal, makes no mention of the use of chain shot, and we know of no instance which it was used during the rebellion.—Ed.

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